

REMARKS

The Amendment

Claim 7 is amended to recite that the DNA sequences are directly deposited on the surface of the substrate. Support for the amendment can be found at page 11, lines 32-34, and Claim 20.

Claim 21 is amended to incorporate the limitation of Claim 28.

Claims 20 and 28 are canceled.

Claims 34 and 35 are amended to delete the phrase regarding cross-contamination.

No new matter is added in any of the above amendments. The amendments are necessary in response to the Final Office Action. Applicants believe that the amendments, if entered, will place the application in a better form for appeal by reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal. The Examiner is requested to enter the amendment and reconsider the application.

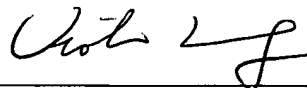
Remarks

In the Advisory Action dated March 30, 2004, the Examiner states that the proposed amendment dated January 29, 2004 are not entered because they raise new issues.

Pursuant to the telephone conference with the Examiner on April 30, 2004, Applicants are submitting herewith Supplemental Amendment, which corrects the formal matter. Applicants further cancel Claims 20 and 28 such that the proposed amendments in Claims 7 and 21 will not raise new issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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